

# POSTSCRIPT

T O

HUSBANDRY Anatomiz'd

O R,

*An Addition to the Enquiry into  
the present Manner of Order-  
ing, Dressing, and Manur-  
ing the GROUND in*

## SCOTLAND

*For most Part;*

*Whereby it is further Explained  
and Applyed, and several good  
Effects that may follow  
thereupon hinted at.*

---

By the Author of the first.

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Printing-house in Bell's-Wynd 1698.



COURTEOUS READER,

**N**othing under the Sun is more the Desire of my Soul, than the Universal Good of all Men living, and for those of this Kingdom in particular, being fully perswaded of the Truth of that Maxime, No Man is born for himself; But the Sense of my own Weakness, has long obstructed my undertaking any thing in a Publick Manner, pursuant to my Inclinations: But of late having maturely considered the many mistakes this Kingdom doth generally ly under, both in Relation to Husbandry, and several other Things, I have adventured to make an Enquiry into the Manner of Ordering and Dressing the Ground in Scotland, and has Essayed to give some Directions, for further Improvement thereof, and further to explain and apply what is said, I have now added these following Sheets. The Summ

of

( )

of all that I have both first and last said,  
doth terminat in this, That if every one  
would take such Measures as easily they  
may, the Honour, Wealth and Power of  
the Kingdom, may in a short time be ad-  
vanced to double of what it is at present;  
This may seem a very incredible Asserti-  
on, but at present I shall no further  
insist in proving thereof. The Calcula-  
tion being made already, & a brief Hint  
given of the Means and Ways how it may  
be Effected: But in the mean time,  
(I say) if it be True, it is worth the  
noticeing, and if it be false, it may easily  
be demonstrated to be so, Such as have any  
thing to object against what is said, or  
would have it farther explained, I shall  
endeavour to satisfie. So long as I abide in  
Town, I shall attend at the Flanders  
Coffee-house for that end, betwixt the  
hours of 10 and 12 in the Forenoon, and  
5 and 6 at Night. I could gladly wish  
every Propriator and Possessor of Lands

( 2 )  
in Scotland, had Copies of this Treatise,  
which you may have at the foresaid Coffee-  
house, at a reasonable Price, but to give  
all of you Copies gratis, my Circumstance  
do not allow, neither know I any Obliga-  
tion on me so to do. But that I may  
go as great a length this way as possible,  
without manifest prejudice to my self, I  
shall leave two or three Copies of this  
Postscript, for Publick Use, at every  
Coffee house in Town; And in what you  
can further desire of me in Reason, your  
Commands shall be willingly obeyed.

Farewell.

# Postscript

**S**INCE I published these foregoing Sheets, I had occasion to discourse with severals on that Subject, and partly have learned what Entertainment they are like to meet with. Some indeed seem to favour my Opinion beyond my Expectation, and none that I have yet met with, do disprove of any thing I have therein proposed, except that concerning *Housing of Sheep*; And to tell the truth, any Arguments they have yet adduced to prove their Point, are so far from making me alter my Opinion, that I am rather thereby confirmed in the Truth of what I have said: Nevertheless I find I am not fully understood by any, nor the Project received with that Applause I humbly conceive it deserveth. This may seem a

great price of Vanity in me to assert, however I hope to make it manifest beyond Contraversie: For I doubt not to assert by following the Measures, I have proposed, the *Honour, Wealth* and *Power* of the *Kingdom*, may be thereby doubled at least.

Perhaps it may be asked, why I did not assert as much in the preceding Sheets? My Reason was, I know Landlords are generally too severe upon their Tenents, and if they see them in a thriving Condition, they either heighten their Rent, or oblige them to remove, so that Farmers are altogether discouraged to make any Improvement whatsoever; Wherefore I thought it needless for me to mention the Landlords profit by this project, that being a thing that he would see to of his own accord; And I endeavoured only to shew in general, what benefite may be made by this Project, leaving the Landlord and  
 Tenent

Tenant to share it betwixt themselves. Yet in the 43 page, I gave an oblique hint at the Landlords profit; but I find General Doctrine is not the best; I humbly conceive, it may contribute more to the propagating of this Project, to speak a little more particularly to the point, and that not only by improving of Ground, but also the Effects that may follow thereupon, this being a feasible Way for making a Stock, its certain that Stock may be improv'd also.

But I say, seeing Landlord and Tenant must concur in the prosecution of what is here proposed, both must share of the benefite; otherwayes it cannot be expected they will unanimously push it on; Therefore in the first place, I would advise the Landlord to give the Tenant good security, that he nor his shall not be obliged to remove for some three, four or five score years, if not to all Generations; hereby

hereby the Tenent has Encourage-  
 ment, to make what Improvement he  
 pleaseth, the benefite is his own : On  
 the other hand, I would have the Te-  
 nent obliging himself, and his Heirs  
 and Successors, to pay at the end of  
 every seven years, one years Rent be-  
 way of Entry or Fine, over and above  
 the yearly Rent he now payeth. I  
 fancy at this the Tenent maketh an-  
 swer for himself, protesting this is too  
 hard for him to do ; But I'm afraid  
 the Landlord be of another Mind a-  
 none: However good Tenent, I would  
 advise you to give the Landlord no-  
 less, providing you get security for  
 continuing as above said, (on other  
 Terms I will not desire you) And I  
 promise, if you follow my Direction,  
 you shall not repent it. When I desire  
 you to give out a Sixpence, if it bring  
 in half a Crown, you sustain no loss.  
 But so it is, every Sixpence you give  
 out this way, shall profit you no less,  
 after the first seven years are over.

In the 27 page, I suppose a Farmer possessing a Room of sixty Aikers, to have alwise fourty of it in Corn, on half Croft, the other half Out-field and other 20 Aikers in Grass. By the Corn he must pay his Rent, for according to the common way of keeping Cattle on Dale Ground, little or no profit is had of them, as is shewed page 29; Now if by the profit of fourty Aikers of Corn, you are able to pay 300 Merks of Rent, then by the profit of 26 or 27, you may pay 200 Merks: Therefore leave one third of your Corn-Land Grass, and you shall pay no [more but 200 Merks for the said two thirds you have in Corn, unless I let you see a Visible Way how you may get the other third hundred Merk payed, by and attour the Increase you formerly had upon the same quantity of ground.

The first year you leave the third of your Corn-Land Grass, you save

13 or 14 Bolls of Grain, wherewith  
 you used to sow it; You also save the  
 Labour of as many Aikers, which  
 with the price of the Seed, may be  
 reckoned as many pounds *Sterling*;  
 With this Money I would have you  
 to make an Orchyeard, as page 34:  
 Then take the whole *Dung* you used to  
 lay upon 6 or 7 Aikers of your Croft,  
 and lay it upon 3 Aikers only, this  
 three Aikers I think may be supposed  
 to produce two Bolls more a peece,  
 than what they did formerly, and in  
 respect you are at no more Expence  
 of Seed and Labour of an Aiker that  
 produceth ten Bolls, than if it produ-  
 ced three, except Threshing, and the  
 Straw will do more than pay that Cost,  
 wherefore I reckon you save 6 Bolls  
 free profit on this three Aikers, this six  
 Bolls 5 pound per Boll, pays 30 *lib.*  
 of your third hunder Merks, so 36  
*lib.* 13 *ss.* 4 *d.* remains unpaid for that  
 year, which the Landlord shall spare  
 till

till you can pay it with the product  
of the Ground. The second year dung  
other three Aikers, on which you may  
also have two Bolls profit a peece, the  
first three Aikers continue to have two  
Bolls more than ordinar for four years,  
so you have twelve Bolls profit this  
year, which pays your third hunder  
Merks, except 6 *lib.* 13 *ß.* 4 *d.* this  
added to what remained unpaid last  
year, makes in all 43 *lib.* 6 *ß.* 8 *d.*  
The third year you take in other three  
Aikers after the same manner, on  
which ye have the like product,  
which makes eighteen Bolls this year,  
which payes the third hunder Merks,  
and 23 *lib.* 6 *ß.* 8 *d.* more, so nothing  
remains of your bygone Rent, except  
20 *lib.* The fourth year you take in  
other three Aikers, on which with  
these nine already mentioned, you  
have 24 Bolls profit, which pays your  
third hunder Merks, with the 20 *lib.*  
of bygone Rent, and 50 Merks more;

Let this be laid by towards paying your *Fine*. The fifth year dung that which you dunged the first year, and so continue to go over the four parts of your Croft Successively. The three years that are yet to expire before the end of the seventh year, you have 24 Bolls profit *per annum* on your 12 Aikers of Croft, which yeeldeth 80 Merks a year more than your third hunder Merks, three time 80 and the 50 Merks laid by the fourth year, is 290 Merks, which payeth your *Fine* all to 10 Merks, and to pay this 10 Merks with, you have all the profit of your Orchyeard, the Roots and Kail you have in it, may be more profitable than ten Bolls of Grain for your Family, which may be reckoned fiftie pounds; The Hay of an Aiker and half, may be worth eighteen pounds. A Crown a peece of twelve Sheep kept on the Stubble of your Orchyeard, is 36 pounds. Honey worth

24 *lib.* this in all makes 123 *lib.* And when your Fruit-trees grow up, you may have as much profit of them, beside the *Out-field* all this while will be growing better by degrees, as well as your Croft, so that by this time you may have a Boll *per Aiker* more on it than ordinar: And your Grasse being both better, and much more of it, providing you observe the Direction given page 38, You may make 200 Merks profit of your Cattle. Moreover, your Ground is but beginning to be brought to a good Condition, you can not expect it will be as good with once or twice Dunging, as afterwards it may be: *Will either Man or Beast that is lean, be made fat by a Meal or two.* I do not think in less than 24 or 30 Years, the Ground can be brought to so good a Condition as afterwards it will be; *And if Tenents get not long Tacks, never think they will Improve it for other Men:* But even from

from the beginning, you see there can be profit made abundance, to encourage any body to set about it. To be Brief, I desire not to reckon every thing narrowly that may be made of it, least the Landlords grudge; But I offer to make it evident, to the Conviction of any Reasonable Man, That Farmers following this Method, shall be inabled to pay their Landlords all that I have spoken off, and shall have more profit by farr, than they can have by following the present way. Tho they did not pay one Sixpence, for when all the above mentioned profits may be made without Hedging or Inclosures, what profit may be expected when that pains is taken, and Manure extraordinar provided, as pag. 72, beside many other peeces of Improvement. Now if this be true, as I am perswaded it is, then has the Tenant as much Gain, as if he had his Room for nothing at all; And it is not

not one Tenent, or ten or hundred;  
 that receiveth this Benefit, but all  
 and every one through out the whole  
 Kingdom may have this profit; I do  
 not mean every indeividual Farmer  
 may make a like Advancement in  
 their profits, for in some places the  
 Ground may be so much improv'd,  
 that triple profit may be thereof made  
 at least; Other places cannot so well  
 be advanced above one third part,  
 but complexlie considered, I am per-  
 swaded that the whole of it may be  
 doubled. Therefore I conclude, Far-  
 mers in prosecution of this Project,  
 shall be as great Profitters, as if they  
 had another Kingdom equal to this  
 bestowed them *Gratis*, providing  
 they changed not their *Ancient Cus-  
 tom*; And the Heritors or Propriators  
 of Lands, are so farr from being at  
 any loss, that they reap a seventh part  
 more Benefit than at present they do,  
 beside their present Rent is secured,

So that it is most visible, that the Heritable Stock of the Kingdom, may be more than doubled.

Now If a poor Man that cannot guide himself, may be permitted to direct others, Ple shew you how the Moveable Stock, may be as much increased, and then I hope my assertion is proven. Landlords to you now I direct my Discourse, Perhaps ye may grudge, I allow nothing but a seventh part, where the Tenent has so much; The Truth is, Tenents have but a forrie Life of it, as Matters go at present, and they had need of the greatest share of the profit, beside, they are at all the pains, & run all the Risque, for tho they should not make all the benefit I propose, still are they obliged to pay you; But I say more, You may accept of Little, where you could expect nothing at all: I suppose your Predecessors and your Selves, have taken the best Measures you can to ad-

advance your Rent, and more than it is at present you could never make it. Now if I shall lay down a way, how ye may advance it a seventh part, ( which I dare almost promise in name of all the Farmers in *Scotland*, providing you gave them long Tacks ) then have you so much Gain ye could never expect, and seeing their profit is not your Loss, you have no Cause to envy them; But what if I make it appear this Fine, at the end of every seven years, shall be more beneficial to you, than one third part more every year: 'Tis like ye may call this a Maggot, but let me be heard before I be condemned.

Commonly all People live according to their Rent, whether it be little or much; he that has 5000 Merks *per annum*, may have as much free Monie at the Years end, as he that hath ten or twentie: So I say tho you had a third more Rent, ye would perhaps find a way

way to get it disposed of, as well as what you have; Yes, but say ye, then we would live so much the better or more splendid: 'Tis a Question if ye would, for ye had better have an hundred Pounds well payed, as an hundred and twentie promised, when the Tenents are not able to pay it punctually at the Term, but this one running on in Arrier half a Years Rent, the other a whole year, and a third two Years, and some breaking now and then amongst hands, and Factors Accompts running on in Confusion, so that its very hard to redd Marches with them. And in the mean time; when you might have your Monie, to bestow to the best Advantage ye could, you are obliged to run in Merchants Accompts, with many other disadvantages: I doubt not but an hundred Pounds punctually payed, is better than an hundred and thirty pay'd after this fashion. Beside all this

a Gentleman getting the name of so much Rent, he must keep a Table and Retinue, answerable thereunto. From all which Disadvantages he is obliged to burden the Heir, for the providing Portions to the rest of his Children, and that lyeth on his Shoulders from Father to Son, till that Familie be extinct, or else the rest of his Children are so meanly provided for, that they cannot live any way fureable to their Station, and they being too gentle to learn, or follow anie honest Imployment, must either go abroad to push their Fortunes, or go up and down the Countrey like Vagabonds, this is the Case with many. But if it be said, this is not the Case with all, I shall readily confess that, but that needs not hinder me to give my Advice to others, neither can they be the worse to hear it. But I say by this Project, even these that are in the worst Circumstances, shall

shall have the Rent that now they have the Name of, well payed, tho at present it be otherwise, and shall have all their Children honestly provided for, without burdening the Heir a fixpence, and to make this the more plain, I shall meke a Supposition, thus.

I suppose a Young Gentleman succeeding to his Fathers Estate, in the twentie or twentie first Year of his Age, the Tacks of his Tenents are half run, so in the twentie fourth year of his Age, the *Entry Money* or *Grasum* due be his Tenents, is payed to him, I suppose his Yearly Rent to be 5000 Merk, the *Fine* he now receiveth is just so much, this is all free profit, for if his Tenents had followed their old way of Labour, this he could not expect, and now his Yearly Rent is entire beside this; Wherefore I would have him lay this 5000 Merks by for his eldest Child, except the Heir, which perhaps is not born for half a dozen Years to come; I would have

have him count it Sacriledge to meddle with it, but let the Interest thereof be gathered for the Child's Use, and before the Child be Marriageable, it may be doubled if not tripled. In the 31 Year of his Age, he hath another *Fine* payed him, which may be laid up for another Child; In the 38 Year of his Age, another *Fine* falleth due, lay this by for a third Child; In the 45 Year of his Age, as much for a fourth Child, in the 52 Year, as much for a fifth Child, and in the 59, a Portion for a sixth Child: This before he be sixtie Years of Age, he has Reasonable Portions provided for six Children, beside the Heir, if he have fewer, he may give each of them a *Fine* as is shewed and divide the Superplus amongst them; If he have more, (as very few hath,) then he may get the rest more easily portioned, that these are provided for already. But say ye, Perhaps before the Father exceed fifty Years, his Eldest Son may be married, and

and so long as the Father applyeth this *fine*, for the Use of his own Children, the Son cannot have it for the Use of his. Such a thing may fall out, but its as probable, the Father will not have so many Children, as what I have supposed, and if he have not above 5, that which is appointed for his sixth Child, may be settled on his *Oay*, but make it as ye will, 'tis better to have so many provided for, as none at all.

But say ye, all this is not so good as another third more Rent, for we can be our own Stewards, and live more splendid, and tho we lay but one half of that third part more additional Rent by every Year, we may therewith provide our Children more plentifully, than what is proposed,

But ye would consider, if ye had a third more Rent than what ye have, it would be expected you should live accordingly, and if ye do it not, ye

will

will be reckoned Misers; And beside when your Rents are screwed to the highest, you cannot have them punctually payed, and so run in all the Inconveniencies above said. Wherefore I'm of Opinion, tho you had 10000 *li* a year, you cannot so easily lay 500 up for your Childrens Use every Year, as you may lay this *fine* by, every seven Years once. But say ye one Tenant payeth his *fine* this Year, another the next, so we get not all in one Year, therefore we are at the same pains in gathering of it, as if we had only so much more Yearly Rent. To which I say, I would have you order it so, that you may have it all to come in at ones, and tho some of your Tenants should begin to set about this New Method at one time, and others at another, when the time comes that the first are to pay their *finer*, rather take from these that have begun last, proportionable to the Years they have followed

followed this Method, and enter them altogether, as take it in by parcels, for I am apt to believe it will not do so well, to come in at several times.

Perhaps some may object, if every Landlord follow this Method, all will have Money to lend, and none will need to borrow, therefore it will be impossible to get all this great Stock, put to any profitable Use.

I wish it were come that length, to have more Stock than we know how to dispose of, but since ye have had patience to hear me hitherto, be pleased to hear my Answer to this also.

By the Prosecution of this Project, I shewed page 32 and 33, a great dale of people may be spared, that are now employed in Ticking and Dressing the Ground, except they be employed in making Inclosures, and even tho many be set to that kind of Work, there will be abundance notwithstanding to labour in *Manufactures*; There is no

doubt

doubt, if people apply themselves, in good earnest that way, *Manufactures* of all kinds may be much propagated in a short space: For want of Stock, that great obstacle, being removed, all other *Lotts* may be easily overcome: Now, if every individual Proprietor of Lands throughout the whole Kingdom, may have a Years Rent everie seventh Year, beside his ordinar Rent, *What vast Stock will this make in all?* Four hundred thousand pounds *Starling*, and even but a part of that is thought sufficient to advance our *African Trade*: And I suppose one Years Rent of all the Lands in *Scotland*, may be four or five times as much: What great Trade of *Fishing* and *Land Manufactures* may be thereby carried on? And how much the more, considering 'tis not only so much *Stock* advanced at first; But infallibly this may be renewed everie seven Years; And how much this may promote the *Honour, Power,* and

and *Wealth* of the *Kingdom*, according to my weak Judgement, may be more than can be easily credited, untill the event prove it; I doubt not but within 24 or 30 Years the Moveable Stock of the *Kingdom* may be tripled, without going to Foreign Plantations to seek Wealth, or digging in Mines for Ore. By this project every Man may digg Treasure out of his own Field, for by observing the Measures proposed, both Cattle and Grain may be greatly increased, so that we may both live more plentifully, and have much thereof to export, beside the unspeakable Advantage of *Manufactures*. And that which makes this project the most feasible of all others, is, That one needs no Dependence on another, except betwixt Landlord and Tenant, and there is more Hopes to bring two to one mind than a great Society of people. I may take my own Measures in Ordering and Dressing my own Ground

Ground, whether others do tholike or not. But in many other projects, there must be a concurrence of a Multitude, and perhaps the Managers sometimes prove not so faithful to all concerned, as could be wished, but in this it is otherwayes. And another advantage in this project, there is no Risque to run, the worst that can befall, or no loss can be sustained by the Undertakers, wherefore I conclude, if this be not set about, we need to try none other whatsoever.

To answer all Queries and Objections that may occur, about this project would take more Room than can conveniently be allowed here, therefore I refer that work to another place. But in the mean time, I shall answer some few, which I judge may be most material. Perhaps it may be demanded, *What kind of Manufactures can be propagated in this Kingdom?*

To which I say, *All sort whatsoever:*

For I know no Reason why that cannot be wrought here, that can be fashioned or performed with Mens Hands in any place of the World, providing we have the same Materials, and were bred too, and taught in these several Arts and employments, and in no place without both of these, can any thing be performed, and even tho we want Materials, of which the things we stand in need of, ought to be made or composed; We may get these things unprepared, much cheaper than the made Work.

We have two universal Objections against every thing that can be said in perswading us to any thing we have not been accustomed to. If it be said our Ground may be improv'd, and the more to convince us of this, Instance the Example of others. It is answered, our Ground is naturally more barren than other Kingdoms; If we be desir'd to set about any Handy La-

Labour, then our Water is so bad, that therewith we can neither Dye, Bleach, make Hats, nor Mill Cloath, &c.

To the first I say, if our Ground be bad, we take the wrong way to make it better, for the best Ground in *Europ*, being used as commonly ours is, shall in a short time grow little better than our own; for so long as it will bear Corn, we plough it over and over, till the product can scarce defray the Expence of Seed and Labouring, and then we give it a smell of Manure only, or else leaves it Grass a Year or two, and as soon as it begins to gather a Soard, *up the red side of it again*, so that in effect they will neither let it bear Grass nor Corn.

Now say I, behold how much our next Neighbours in *England* manage their Ground to advantage more than we do? Your Answer is, Their Soil is Naturally better, and rheir Climat warm,

warmer. What is your inference? For notwithstanding the Fertility of their Soil, and warmth of Climat, they think it necessarie to plant Hedges to keep it warmer, as page 64. And also they find it for their Advantage, to make but a fourth or fifth part of their Ground Corn at once, because they cannot get all of it sufficiently keepeed in Manure. But because our Ground is more barren, and Climat colder, therefore we need not use Means to restrain External Cold, and may alwayes have one half, or two third parts of it in Corn. Is this your inference? Well, good enough, I think it needs no Answer.

To that Objection anent the badness of our Water, I would fain ask a Question, which may serve for an Answer to to this. Do ye think the badness of our Water has any Influence upon a Man working in Iron or Wood, that his Workmanship is not so good  
per-

perhaps as else where it may be had.  
Then say ye the people in this Kingdom must be much duller than others, and therefore they can never attain to the like Dexterity in any *Curious Art* or *Mechanick Operation*, with these or other places.

This I will be very loath to grant, for the contrarie I firmly believe, but indeed I will confess, That commonly our *Mechanicks* are not so Dexterous or Expert as others; But the Causes may be one or all of these. *First*, We have not the Instruction or Education of several others, and can it be expected a Man that has not been Taught or Instructed in such or such an *Art*, can be an equal Proficient to him that has had that Help, providing they are of equal parts, take a Man of any of these Nations you pretend are most Expert and capable of Instruction, and put him to do a peece of Work he never did or saw done, can he perform

form it as one that is experienced with that sort of Labour? Secondly, It is the Vulgar Opinion, *Nothing that is made within the Kingdom, can be so good as that which is brought from Abroad*, Nor will they give so much for it, altho it be really better, so the Seller knowing he cannot have a price for it, if he should bestow Labour upon it, makes it his Study how to afford his Ware cheap, seing the Buyers will not bestow a price upon good Ware, and that only because *it is our own Homeward Making*. Another Cause why our *Mechanicks* are not so Dexteroius as perhaps others are, is, They abide not closs at one kind of Work, but from one thing to another, so that they can't be so expert in several things as they might, and undoubtedly would be in one thing: But in may other places, *Mechanicks* abid closs at one sort of Work, so that they become not only expert as to the making of the Work good,

good, but also a far greater quantity of it; *I* remember *I* heard a Nailer, that's a Nail-maker tell, He knew a Man that was accustomed to work in nothing but Sparrowbills, a sort of short Nails wanting heads, he used to make a very considerable number of them, he said to the number of 7 or 8 thousand a day, and yet if he had been set to make common Nails, he neither could make them good, or any considerable number of them: I doubt not but a Man abiding still at one kind of Work, may both attain to a greater Dexterity in making of it fine, and do much more of it, than another that from one thing to another, is continually turning.

But sayes some, We have had Mechanicks from abroad, and we have tryed to make several things, and particularly Hats, and Broad Cloath in this Kingdom, and yet we cannot make our Ware so good, as what we can have from abroad.

E

Who

Who knows whether these Forraign-ers be the most expert of their Employments, in these places from whence they came, or perhaps they may be subborned to conceal the Art of their Calling, or perhaps their Masters find it not for their Advantage, to bestow the Expense that is required in making the finest Ware, because we have suck'd in that Tenet, *It cannot be fine enough, if it be our own homeward making.* Moreover tho there be some few skil'd in these Employments to direct, yet they cannot do all the Work with their own hands, and till these that assist them, come to some measure of Dexterity, it cannot be expected their Ware can be so good, as otherwise it may be. These that would propogate any new Manufacture, must lay their Accompt to labour under several Disadvantages at first; For instance, when Sope Manufactures were first set up in this Kingdom, their Sope was not so good as what we had from abroad by far.

far; These at *Glasgow* gave it over, as a thing they could not accomplish, these at *Leith* continued to work on, and now have acquired so much knowledge in that Art, that their Sope is better than that we have brought from abroad; From whence I conclude, if these in *Leith* had given over, as these at *Glasgow* did, it had been thought our Water in this Kingdom was so bad, that Sope could not be therewith made, whereas we see the Falshood of that Conjecture: My Opinion is, that what ever any may object against Water in other Cases, its altogether groundless.

I should think if Strangers were encouraged to set up here for themselves, or some of our own Countrey Men sent abroad, to be instructed in the knowledge of these Arts, wherein we have least *Knowledge*, it might be a Mean to propagat Manufactures; And especially Fishing and Woolen Manufactures, might prove to the Kingdoms Unspeakable Profit, if they were pro-

moted: Yea there is no kind of Art or Imployment, but what we might acquire Knowledge in, if we had Means of Instruction; And because formerly the great Cause of our living at home in Penurie, was Povertie and Want of a Stock, once to set about any Fru g<sup>a</sup>litie ( for a poor Man is still kept poor, because he has nothing once to put him in Capacitie to do for himself ) I say by this Project that Maladie is removed, and we are put in a Capacitie to propagat Manufactures, build or buy Ships, and do many other things that may advance the *Honour, Pouer and Wealth* of the Kingdom.

But sayes some, Fine Cloath cannot be made here, because our Wool is coarse; Grant it is, We may buy as much Wool, as may be four Ells of Cloath, for the price of one Ell, and beside if our Sheep were kept, as is proposed Chapter 5, our own Wool may be much improven, then we save the other three parts of the Expence, it  
would

would cost us. I know it will not be for a fourth part of the price to the Wearer, but I mean the fourth part of the Money or Ware, that is exported furth of the Kingdom, to bring home Cloath may be saved, and a great dale of People, that are at present imploy'd in Toyling their Lives out, working in the most industrious Way that can be invented to run out the Ground, may be imployed in making the said Cloath, and other profitable Employments; And because I told you, I had met with some Opposition, concerning the way of Stock-keeping I have proposed, I shall let you hear the most material Arguments, any have yet adduced to prove the contrar.

Some acknowledge *Housing of Sheep*, may be practicable in a few, but not in great numbers, others foreseeing, granting the first, is the high way to overturn the latter, manfully dispute against both, the strength of their Arguments are these, viz: To put Sheep in houses, makes

makes them scab, and the great difficulty of getting Litter or Bedding to them, and also the Expence of building Hutts will be great.

To the first I say, if it be true, then I confess its a very pungent Objection, and because some bring in matter of Fact as a proof, I shall show what I know of Matter of Fact to the contrar, I have known 5 or six score sheep, for a dozen or sixteen Years together, put in Hutts every Night, and not one of them was scabbed, during that time; Now if a hundred can be lodged so conveniently, as may prevent this bad effect, then a hundred thousand may also be preserved the same way, providing the like Care and pains be taken on every hundred of them. But I'll tell you where the Mistake lyeth. Some Stock-keepers that have tryed the Experiment, to save a little Expence in building Hutts, have crammed them so throng, that one could not conveniently ly beside another, neither did

did they take Care to have them lying clean and dry, from whence this bad Effect followed : When I desire a Man to hold out of a Mire on his Right hand, I bid him not leap into a Ditch on his Left, when I complain of letting Sheep ly out wanting Food, amongst Frost and Snow, page 94, I do not desire they should be used after this fashion, but page 97, I recommend building of Hurts so large, that the Sheep may ly at ease, and have free Air, and page 99, by all means to lay them clean and dry.

Others say, when they buy Cattle to put in their Parks, for fatning these that are accustomed to ly without, take on flesh much sooner than these that have been housed.

To Answer this distinctly, I will give you this Similitude ; Let a *Highland Man* that is accustomed to go through Bogs and Glens, with only a loose Plaid about his Body, his Buttocks altogether bare, and his Brogues that

that defend him not from one drop of Water. Now I shall readily believe, this Man in the beginning of a Campaign, shall endure more Hardship than another that has been accustomed to good Keeping and warm Cloathing; Yet I shall scarce be perswaded to follow his Example. No doubt Cattle that accustomed to ly in a warm house, will not at first agree so well to ly without in a Park, as other accustomed thereunto; But let them be put in a house all night, and feed with the other all day, I doubt not but they may be as soon fat as the other.

Now to the building of Sheep Cots, I say, if Stones can be easily had, you may make the walls of stone, if not, Sods or Turffs may serve, the form I judge most convenient, and least expensive, is a square of 50 foot each way, 4 foot in hight will be enough, then within this build another wall ten foot from the other, the inner square is 30 foot in length each quar-

ter, but instead of this inner wall, let there be only pillars made for the support of your Roof: The Reason why I recommend leaving the side of the House open, is to let the Sheep have Air, but if the side of a single house were left open in all Weather, it could not defend from Storm and Snow; The breadth of your House being only the distance betwixt the inner and outer wall, viz: ten foot, Cuples of 7 or 8 foot length may serve, and in regard they are short, they will not need to be very thick, about the thickness of good Care polls may serve, which being placed at 6 or 7 foot distance, about 30 Cuples will serve the whole Square. The outer wall of 50 foot each side, being builded of Sods, or with some few Stones mixed with the Sods, will not cost above ten Shillings of Expence, the Cuples may be had I suppose for ten pence a pair, which is 15 pounds, small Sticks will serve for Cabers or Ribbs: But geane  
F they

they are as dear as the Cuples, both make but 30 pounds, say the Thatch cost as much as the walls, all make but 42 pounds, and this Square will contain 12 or 14 scores of Sheep with ease : But call them but 12 score only, the Expence is but 3 *£*. 6 *d*. for every Sheep, not the price of two years *smearing* ; This House kept in Thatch, may last 30 Years, and the Thatch I reckon nothing at all, for grant you put Divets on it every two Years once, they are worth all your pains for *Manure*.

As to the bedding of your Sheep, I say, if ye have Corn, as is supposed page 100, ye have Straw enough for that use, if not, Rushes, Bent, dry Sand, or any thing that may keep them dry and clean will serve ; But if none of these things can be had, then can you not want Divets ; And because this is the most expensive, I shall reckon how farr your profit may go beyond your Cost in this. A Man may  
cut

cut or cast ten Cart load of Divets in a day, that is six pence, say the drying and bringing of them home cost twice as much, you have them cheaper than two pence a Cart, every Cart of Divets, will be 2 or 3 of Dung, because the Piss and Dung, add both to the weight and bulk, the Cart of Dung is worth 14 pence, as was shewed Chap. 5. When your Sheep begin to ly any thing wet, lay a new course of Divets over the whole floor, with the green side up, or if you have Straw or Rushes, ye may bed them whiles with the one, and whiles with the other; The profit you have by this Labour, is more than ye readily can believe, for your Sheep being provided in Food, and preserved from cold and wet, they are in a much better Condition, Especially that time of the year, when they are with Young; And I am of Opinion, that any Creature receiving wholesome and plentiful Nourishment,

when it is in the womb, is thereby more strengthened, and brought to a wholesome Constitution, than by any so long time feeding, during the time of its Life; And tho severals of our Stock-keepers may feed their Cattle prettie well in Summer, yet very few provide for them in Winter, as the Schamles can bear Witness.

Perhaps it may be said, these Divats being cut upon the Pasture, will spoil a great dale of Ground, To which I say, you cannot in Reason expect much Benefit, but you must be at some loss; I do not propose this as a thing that may be done without any Cost at all, but I endeavour to make it evident, that your Profit shall be more than your loss; And if you will consider the Benefit your other Ground receiveth by the Sheep Dung, you'll find all the prejudice ye sustain by the loss of so much of your Pasture fully repayed with Interest.

To

To insist in speaking to every thing that may be for the further explaining and applying of the whole Project, and touching of many things concerning *Husbandry*, I have not yet spoken to all, would take up thrice as much as all I have yet done: And to be plain, I have no great inclination to engage my self in the Expence that will be required to finish such a Work, until I see further what Entertainment that which I have done already meets with, I have said as much as I can in few words, and for ought I know, am the first in this Kingdom that has essayed any thing on this Subject. But I'm of Opinion, there may be several Directions given, concerning the Ordering and Dressing the Ground, more useful to the Inhabitants of *Scotland*, than what has yet been proposed by any that ever wrote upon *Husbandry*.

I know severals have written perhaps as well as any Man can in general;

But

But none of these being particularly acquainted with the Nature and Constitution of Ground in this Kingdom, nor with the particular mistakes the people generally ly under, their Directions cannot so exactly answer our Case. A skilful *Physician* may prepare *Physick* or *Medicine*, very good for many Diseases; And yet a farr less accomplished *Physician*, may prepare *Physick* that is fitter for the particular use of one whose Constitution and Disease he knoweth; I doubt not but particular Directions may be given in Relation to *Husbandry*, more exact to our Case than any yet proposed by Strangers. Ploughing too much of the Ground, Leaving it without Fence, And overlaying their Pastures: These three being the grand Mistakes People ly most under, I have endcavoured to perswade them to Reformation therein, which is a quite other *Theam*, than is usually insisted on by others.

But

But before I close, I shall take notice to one Objection, that perhaps may seem of great Moment to many, and yet in Reality is of no force at all; The thing here proposed is very great, *viz: That if every one would take such Measures, as easily they may, the Honour, Wealth and Power of the Kingdom, may soon be advanced to the double of what it is at Present*; The Means by which so great a Matter is to be accomplished, being so easie and very common, (whereas the Means for prosecuting so great a Work, would be expected to be very wonderfull and extraordinary) therefore no such Effect can follow the prosecution of this Project.

How weak so ever the Means are, to me they seem to prove effectual if followed, and if the Calculation made already, serve not to perswade you to the like thoughts, I must know your Objections before I can satisfie you: But it is not the first time great Things have been accomplished by weak Means,  
and

And the less that can be expected from the instrument or Means, there seems to be the more of an Overruling Providence in it; And to tell you my own thoughts, several Providences seem to concur in the prosecution of this Project, *viz:* The long continuance of the Frost, which doth oblige People to a Compliance (for this year) to one special Point I have proposed: To witt, *To take less Ground into Tillage, and keep'd in better Condition.* And then again by this, a great dale of Seed may be saved, which will come very seasonably this Year: In respect of our present Scarcity of Grain. And now beside, upon the Conclusion of a Peace, People may apply themselves thereto the more effectually, together with several other Things that I have not Room here to insert.

FINIS.

